



MANATABA MESSENGER

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December, 2008

CRIT to have new Chairman after Dec. 6 vote

Chairman Eddy not on ballot for first time in 20 years; four other seats open

CRIT will have a new chairman for the first time in 20 years, and a total of five other Tribal Council seats will also be decided in the upcoming Tribal Council election.

Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. has decided not to run for re-election. Eddy, Jr. has served as chairman since 1988, and has served on Tribal Council since 1980.

Three people are seeking the office of Tribal Chairman, two people are seeking the office of Vice Chairman, and 14 people are running for four open Tribal Council seats in the upcoming Tribal Election.

The election will take place on Saturday, December 6, with polling locations open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The seats of Chairman Eddy, Jr., Vice Chairman Eldred Enas, and Councilmembers Dennis Patch, Valerie Welsh-Tahbo, Bo Flores and Herman "T.J." Laffoon are up for re-election on December 6.

Enas has decided to run for Chairman. Flores has decided not to run for re-election.

The candidates are:

Chairman: Wendell Goodman, Jr., Rayford Patch, Eldred Enas.

Vice Chairman: Wayne Patch, Sr., John Laffoon.

Tribal Council: Jimmy Alcaida, Valerie Welsh-Tahbo, Timothy Mariscal, Edward Yava, Sr., Dennis Patch, Mervin Scott, Jr., Johnny Hill, Jr., Dale Short, Jr., Myron Robertson, Anisa Patch, Amanda Sharpe, Herman "T.J." Laffoon, Elroy Robertson, Sr., Duncan Fisher.

The polling locations are:

DISTRICT I — Tribal Administrative Center

DISTRICT II — Headstart Valley School

After the election, on Monday, December 8, the election results will be certified by the Tribal

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Statement from Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr.

Election time is upon us once again and after considerable thought, I've decided not to seek reelection this time. Although numerous supporters had encouraged me to continue, I just felt that it was time to end my political career, a career that never could have happened without supporters like you, who had confidence and trust in me to lead this great Tribe for two consecutive decades.

If I may, I'd like to reflect on the last 20 years to share with you my thoughts on what

has taken place during that time. I was once told by one of our elders that in the position of a leader, in this case as the Chairman of the Colorado River Indian Tribes, I would have to accept the bad times with the good times, or in other words, "the ups and downs" as we moved along. I believe we did just that. While I think that we may have accomplished some major projects along the way, the work and the goals

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Shelter construction underway



(Above) Construction of the new CRIT Children's Shelter is well underway at its site on Agency Road in Parker. (Left) Several members of the Tribal Council were there for the facility's groundbreaking.

Facility will provide much-needed place for children in need or trouble

Construction is now well underway on the new, and long-awaited CRIT Children's Shelter.

The 1,700 square foot facility will provide housing for children in need of care, with room for 16 minors and 5 infants, and address the shortage of care options long recognized by CRIT authorities.

The shortage of care options has resulted in inappropriate placements, and increased risk to our at-risk children. This has been due to a

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News & Information From Your Tribal Council



Daniel Eddy, Jr.
Chairman



Eldred Enas
Vice Chairman



Valerie Welsh-Tahbo,
Secretary



Dennis Welsh, Jr.,
Interim Treasurer



Daphne Hill-Poolaw



Dennis Patch



Herman "TJ"
Laffoon



Fernando "Bo"
Flores



Richard
Armstrong

Tribal Council vote fans winds of change across the CRIT Reservation

No matter what the results are of the upcoming Tribal Council election, we know that dramatic change is coming to the leadership of CRIT.

For the first time in 20 years, CRIT will not have Daniel Eddy, Jr. as its chairman. And, CRIT will also have the services of a new Vice Chairman, as current Vice Chairman Eldred Enas is seeking the Chairman's seat. Add to that mix the four other open Tribal Council seats and one seat that is the subject of a recall vote the following week, and the complexion of our Tribal leadership will almost certainly be different come January 2, 2009, when the new council is sworn in.

It's a change mirroring the ones seen all across the country, as we will have a new president serving us as well as numerous new faces among our elected officials.

But before it takes place, it's important to take a moment to reflect on the service of one of the longest-tenured public servants in Tribal history.

Chairman Eddy has overseen dramatic and sometimes difficult changes over the past 20 years, and has helped transform the quality of life on the CRIT Reservation.

For example, he began his public service on council a full 15 years before Indian gaming became part of the CRIT economy, and became Chairman a full 10 years before the opening of the BlueWater Resort & Casino.

It's difficult to even fathom the amount of change seen by our people since then, and to reflect with the proper context on some of the dramatic accomplishments in that time. From the restoration of the La Paz Lands to our people to improvements in myriad public services, the one constant has been the leadership of Chairman Eddy.

Whether this is merely a break from public service for Chairman Eddy or the end of a distinguished and memorable career remains to be seen, but regardless, as the winds of change sweep across the CRIT Reservation, it is important to remember how far we've come.

And it's not a bad time to remember the hard work and public service that Daniel Eddy, Jr. has provided to the people of CRIT.

More progress made on Wal-Mart center

Wal-Mart is continuing construction work and planning on its new shopping center in Parker. Preliminary construction of infrastructure is already underway at the now-active site, across from the Moovalya Plaza on Highway 95 in Parker.

Wal-Mart is doing significant earth moving on the site in preparation for the beginning of vertical construction, which should start in the coming weeks.

Additionally, the Tribal Council recently recommended approval of Wal-Mart's application for a state Liquor License, and the Tribal Liquor Control Board has held a hearing on their application for a Tribal Liquor license as well.

Wal-Mart typically has an 8-9 month construction timeframe, but no specific timeframe has been given for the Parker center. Wal-Mart signed its lease and began sending lease payments to the Tribes earlier this year.

"Wal-Mart looks to be making significant

construction progress, and we're pleased with the way things are going in making this important community amenity a reality," said Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr.

The new store will be about 100,000 square feet and include groceries and general merchandise. The center will include a variety of other stores as well.

CRIT will be leasing the other parts of the property so that it has control over the types of businesses that come into the community and can secure the revenue streams created from those stores.

In addition to creating more shopping choices for area residents and tribal members, the economic impact and job creation from the shopping center will be substantial.

The new Wal-Mart store will create an estimated 200 new jobs and up to \$400,000 per year in sales tax revenue for CRIT, which will help fund youth, elder and other important Tribal programs.

New faces to represent CRIT on local, state level

CRIT will have several new faces representing it on the state and local level after the November 4 General Election.

Sandy Norris Pierce will be the County Supervisor for the CRIT Reservation after winning her election.

She had advanced in the September Primary Election past incumbent Gene Fisher by one vote, and advanced by a wide margin in the General Election.

Pierce said that she is looking forward to serving the people of CRIT and representing them on key issues.

"I'm thrilled that I was able to win the election," she said. "Parker has been my home for more than 50 years, so I know the area and I hope that I can serve CRIT well. I plan on going down there quite often to see what the issues are and any way I can help."

Pierce said that she has talked with some CRIT Tribal leaders and has pledged her support to the needs of the Tribes.

Additionally, the new La Paz County Sheriff

is an employee of CRIT.

Donald Lowery narrowly edged incumbent Hal Collett to win election. Lowery is an employee of the CRIT Police Department.

On the statewide level, in District 24, which includes the entire CRIT reservation on the Arizona side, Russ Jones beat incumbent Theresa Ulmer to win a seat in the state House of Representatives.

Incumbent Lynne Pancrazi was the top vote-getter and will return to the House, and incumbent State Senator Amanda Aguirre also won re-election.

In District 3, which includes the areas of La Paz County outside the reservation boundaries, Nancy McClain was re-elected to the House of Representatives, where she will be joined by Doris Goodale.

Goodale will fill the seat of incumbent Trish Groe, who lost in the September Primary Election.

Ron Gould won re-election to his seat in the State Senate representing District 3.

We want to hear from you!

Send letters and story ideas to 26600 Mohave Road, Parker, AZ 85344
You may also e-mail us at feedback@critonline.com

New budget initiative to be considered

In his monthly Treasurer’s Report for November, Tribal Treasurer Dennis Welsh noted continued progress toward balancing CRIT’s budget for 2009 and to centralize finance and accounting activities.

New systems are currently being put into place to better manage CRIT’s cash and investments and improve controls over government and enterprise operations.

To reduce government spending, CRIT will centralize its purchasing operations and is considering revamping its motor pool operation.

CRIT’s Law & Order Department was also recently restructured to reduce payroll costs.

Welsh also noted that recent financial disclosures by CRIT have been misinterpreted and reports that its finances are stretched are greatly exaggerated.

Welsh said that with smart thinking, he hopes that budget reductions can be made without major staff cuts.

Welsh is also proposing an initiative to restore the Council’s commitment to pre-planned reserve accumulation for long-term Tribal needs.

The initiative, nicknamed Vision 2010, would commit separate investment pools to finance enterprise expansion and long-needed renovation improvements to the Tribal Administration Building and the community gym.

A new financial management system would also be installed to improve the Tribes’ financial reporting to agencies and reduce outside legal and auditor fees.

Welsh said he expects the Tribal Council will endorse the new initiative in a special session late in November.

Congress approves BIA Electric legislation

Bill to provide CRIT with funds from BIA Electric awaits Bush’s signature

A bill proposed by CRIT and sponsored by Congressman Raul Grijalva to allow the Tribes to access revenue generated by BIA Electric has passed through Congress.

The bill now awaits President Bush’s signature before becoming law.

The legislation will accomplish two key goals. First, currently BIA Electric generally generates more revenue than it spends (although, because it’s a government agency, it can’t be considered

“profit”). Those excess funds are placed into an account that’s reserved for emergencies and other improvements.

The bill will still allow those funds to be used for emergencies and improvements, but will also allow them to be used to create a Tribal Energy Department, which will have input on how the utility is operated.

It will also help CRIT create a more comprehensive strategy toward energy generation and use on the CRIT Reservation.

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Upcoming Events

BlueWater Resort & Casino events

• Live from the BlueWater Resort & Casino Bingo Concert Hall, BlueWater proudly presents Ronnie Milsap on December 11. Ronnie will be performing two shows that night with the first show at 6 p.m. and the second show at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale in the Gift Shop for \$25 in advance and \$30 day-of-show.

• Let us take you to 2009! On December 31, come join BlueWater for a special evening with special room packages from \$49.95. Make your reservation now! The party begins at 8 p.m. with “Pilot” in the Dig Lounge and complimentary appetizers served at 9 p.m. in the gaming areas. A special dinner menu will be offered in the River Willow, Prime Rib & King Crab for \$24.95. There will be a balloon drop in the Dig Lounge and a champagne toast at midnight to bring in the New Year.

Then, come join us on January 1 for New Year’s Day Brunch in the BlueWater Grille from 11 a.m. to close. The BlueWater Grille will also offer a special buffet menu all weekend.

• On January 10, Best in the Desert and Epic Racing Products present the first race of the 2009 season, the “Epic Racing Products Parker 250,” known as “The Duel in the Desert” motorcycle, quad and UTV race. Come watch some of the best motorcycle, quad and UTV racers challenge the Arizona desert as they start from 18th Street and Geronimo in Parker, Arizona and make three 75-mile loops plus an additional eight miles to the finish line along the mighty Colorado River at the beach of the BlueWater Resort & Casino. For more information on this event contact Best in the Desert at 702-457-5775, e-mail bith@bith.com or check out their website at www.bith.com.

Dig Lounge schedule

- December 3-6 — “Clark County Express,” a four-piece band specializing in Southern and classic rock and country.
- December 10-13 — “L.A. Lyon,” with a female fronting a three-piece band playing variety dance music, disco and Rhythm & Blues.
- December 17-20 — “Swift Kick,” with a female fronting a three-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from the 50s through 90s.
- December 24-27 — “The Mix,” with a female fronting a three-piece band playing a wide variety of dance music, classic rock and Latin.
- December 31-January 3 — “Pilot,” with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Rhythm & Blues, Top 40 dance, classic rock, Old School and disco.
- January 7-10 — “American Made,” a four-piece band featuring a female playing a wide variety of classic rock, oldies, Rhythm & Blues, country, Top 40, disco and dance music.
- January 14-17 — “Swift Kick.”
- January 21-24 — “Voo Doo,” with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Top 40, dance and classic rock.
- January 28-31 — “Desert Moon,” with a female fronting a three-piece band playing classic and today country and a bit of classic rock.

Current CRIT Job Opportunities

The following are some of the jobs currently open with CRIT, courtesy of the Human Resources Department. For a full listing, visit www.critonline.com.

Position: Bookkeeper/Weigh Master
Department: Colorado River Sand & Rock
Salary: \$8.50-12.50 per hour
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Truck Driver
Department: Solid Waste
Salary: \$14.08 per hour
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Police Helicopter Pilot
Department: Law & Order
Salary: \$32,000-35,000 per year
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Evidence Recovery Technician and Background Investigator
Department: Law Enforcement
Salary: \$32,000-36,000
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Enterprise Accountant
Department: Accounting
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Airport Maintenance Technician/ Fueler II
Department: CRIT Air
Salary: \$8.25 per hour
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Irrigator
Department: CRIT Farms
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Internal Auditor
Department: Internal Audit
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Park Maintenance Supervisor
Department: Aha Quin Mobile Home Park
Salary: Depends on experience
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: Maintenance Worker
Department: Aha Quin Mobile Home Park
Close Date: Open until filled

Position: General Manager
Department: Colorado River Building Materials
Close Date: Open until filled

To apply or for more information, contact CRIT Human Resources at 26600 Mohave Road, Parker, 85344, or call them at (928) 669-1321.

New Miss CRIT looks forward to duties, pageants

The new Miss CRIT, Tayla Tahbo, recently took time to answer some questions for the *Manataba Messenger*.

A little bit about myself

My name is Tayla Hollie Tahbo. I am the 19 year old daughter of Lorenzo and Valerie Tahbo and Shannon Rena McCabe. I am of a Mohave and Hopi-Tewa decent. My Hopi clans are the Tobacco, Bear and the Sun Forehead, and my Mohave clan is Oach.

Q: What made you want to be a contestant in the Miss CRIT Pageant?

The biggest thing that made me want to join the Miss CRIT Pageant was to have the honor to represent the Tribes for a whole year with many exciting trips and other traditions to learn see and share.

Q: What was the most nerve-wracking part?

The most nerve-wracking part of the pageant for me would have had to be my talent portion. For my talent I had did a slide show on the Mohave Runner explaining why they ran, where they went, what they carried (whether it was news or food or gifts of trade), and who they went to see. I didn't know my talent through and through, and that had caused some problems for me when I was out on the stage. I was a little shaky reading my paper but I got through it.

Q: Overall, what were some of the most memorable moments of the pageant experience?

Some of the most memorable moments of the pageant for me were the opening act before the competition began, and just learning the dance itself was awesome with all these different moves to remember.



From left to right, Hazel Flood, Miss CRIT 1st Attendant; Pauline Fisher, 2nd Attendant, Miss CRIT 2008-09 Tayla H. Tahbo.

Q: How did you feel when you found out you won?

When I had found out that I had won I was in shock because I didn't think I would have pulled through after my talent portion.

Q: What are you looking forward to most about being Miss CRIT?

What I am looking forward to the most is at the end of the year, when I go compete in the Miss Indian Arizona Pageant.

Q: What are some of the activities you've been a part of so far as Miss CRIT?

So far I have went to the Miss Quachan pageant and the Miss Ft. Yuma, and I have

participated in five parades and some community dinners serving food.

Q: What would you tell other young CRIT members who look up to you as Miss CRIT about the experience, and what advice would you give them about the future?

To those young girls I would say to them to get out there and learn your traditions — if you don't they will be lost. Also participate in these pageants — not only does it help with your self esteem but it will take you places and open doors everywhere. You just learn so much within the one year you serve for the Tribes to help you throughout your life.

— Birthdays & Announcements —

Birthdays

- Happy Birthday to my brother and sister: November 22nd – Kenton Laffoon, Sr. November 28th – Rockie J. Laffoon From Thalla Laffoon-Paddock

• Happy birthday to Adrian Irie Valdez (2 years old) on November 25, from his mom Kateri, dad Estevan, brother and sister, grandma Liz and all his aunts and uncles. You're the brightest little star in our lives. We all love you!



• Happy birthday to my baby girl Tennelle I. Moses (November 24). From Dad.

Happy birthday to our sister Cynthia M. Hough (November 20). From all of your brothers.

Happy birthday to my two little brothers in December. From the Makaav Bassman.

• November 6 — Happy birthday Grandson Donovan Scott. Love Grandma Berdette, Auntie Daphnee, Tifanny, Uncles Robert and Terry.

November 6 — Happy birthday to our son Donovan Scott. Love Mom and Dad, sisters Nathalia and Salena.

November 11 — Happy birthday to my sister Lela McCowan. Love Berdette, nieces Judi,

Daphnee, Tiffany and nephews Terry and Robert.

November 14 — Happy birthday to my daughter Nathalia Scott. Love Mom and Dad, brother Donovan, sister Salena.

November 14 — Happy birthday granddaughter Nathalia Scott. Love Grandma Berdette, aunties Daphnee and Tiffany, uncles Robert and Terry.

November 24 — Happy birthday to our daughter Salena Scott. Love Mom and Dad, brother Donavan, sister Nathalia.

November 24 — Happy birthday to my granddaughter Salena Scott. Love Grandma Berdette, aunties Daphnee and Tiffany, uncles Robert and Terry.

November 24 — Happy birthday to Elyse Vindolla. Love Michael, Judi, Donovan, Nathalisa, Salena.

November 24 — Happy birthday Elyse from House 88 Hundred Homes.

• December 3 — Happy 35th Birthday Dad!! We love you!! Cody, Tyson, and Bobbie Esquerra

Announcement

Congratulations to Amelia Flores on her recent election as Northern Regional Representative to the Arizona Library

Association Executive Board. She will be a great addition to the Executive Board.

David Gunckel
Arizona Chapter Councilor
Sierra Vista Public Library

In Memory Of

One of the wonderful memories I have of serving the CRIT community was interacting with Patronella Swick. She always had a smile and positive words. She created an enjoyable working environment for all of us at DSHS. Most of all we were able to sense her love. Dropping off our pop cans into her box under the desk was always a journey into a place of acceptance and love. She was one of our Father's blessings placed in our lives. It was my honor and privilege to have walked with this very special person for my time at CRIT.

Sincerely,
Jim Graves

The *Manataba Messenger* welcomes submissions of birthdays, anniversaries, obituaries and other announcements. You may send your submissions via e-mail to feedback@critonline.com.

Newly expanded CRIT Library open for classes, programs

After some minor construction delays, the newly remodeled and expanded CRIT Library is now open for classes, special programs and general public use.

The Library’s square footage has been dramatically expanded because the CRIT Museum is no longer in the building. It will be housed in a new facility in downtown Parker.

Along with the expansion, an extensive renovation was done of the building that created a new entryway, a new computer lab that can serve up to 17 people, and more floor space for Library activities and books.

The improvements and increased floor space have transformed the entire feel of the Library from being packed with materials and not having a lot of extra room to a much more open environment.

The new facility opened to the public right after the CRIT Library’s 50th Anniversary on October 4.

Amelia Flores, the Library Director, said that the improvements have resulted in an increase in the number of people visiting the facility.

“We’re able to have a lot more space for programs for kids and adults, and that’s brought a lot of people in,” she said. “We also have a new video section that has been popular as well.”

Flores said that the improvements have also resulted in an increase in the number of researchers visiting — the Library also houses the Tribal Archives, which can be used by members and researchers to track family and Tribal history.

The CRIT Library has classes during the day and evenings, including computer training and language classes.

For more information on class offerings, call the CRIT Library at (928) 669-1332.



(Above) Children from CRIT Head Start flood into the CRIT Library for Trick or Treating on Halloween. The photo shows the new entryway to the Library and the expanded square footage the Library now enjoys.

(Right) A recent Mohave Language Class at the expanded CRIT Library. Classes were taught at the library by Amelia Flores with the assistance of Mohave Elder, Mr. Sheldon Swick. Level I classes are still available — contact the CRIT Library at (928) 669-1332 for more information.



Photos courtesy of Amelia Flores and Gil Harper of the CRIT Library.

SHELTER, From Page 1

lack of sufficient numbers of foster homes or professional facilities within the community to receive, and provide appropriate short or long term care for, neglected, abused, or otherwise at-risk children. In these unfortunate cases, CRIT’s abused and neglected children are either not removed from unhealthy or dangerous family situations, or are placed with relatives who, though willing, are unable to provide the level of care these children require.

There are also cases in which at-risk CRIT children are sent off the reservation to receive the care they need when no other appropriate placement can be found locally. This adds unnecessary stress on the children, the families involved, and on the social service organizations that make these arrangements. These burdens will be reduced substantially when the new facility begins operations.

The new shelter will address these issues by providing a safe haven for children in need until the appropriate solution is worked out for their long-term care — whether that solution is reunification with their immediate family, or temporary or permanent placement elsewhere.

To that end, the facility was designed, and is being built with state-of-the-art concepts and materials, to minimize maintenance costs, maximize utility, and energy efficiency.

CRIT contributed \$1.1 million to the construction of the project, and was awarded a grant of \$825,000 from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. Norquay Construction, Inc. out of Tempe, Arizona is the general contractor for CRIT on this project.

CRIT’s Juvenile Justice Review Committee (“JJRC”) is in the process of planning the operations of the shelter. The projected date of completion of construction is June 2009.

The JJRC is looking at several options in the operation, including:

- Having the shelter be fully Tribally funded and operated.
- Having the shelter be fully funded and operated by an outside professional agency for the first two years with a plan to transition it back to the Tribes.
- Having the shelter be fully tribally funded and operated with outside professional services for skills training.

The approximate cost to start the operation the shelter is over \$1 million. Therefore, it is absolutely critical of that the JJRC explore the operation options thoroughly, keeping in mind the current Tribal budget constraints.

**Send someone special a
Happy Valentine’s Day
Wish in the next issue of
the Manataba Messenger!**



**Send your Valentine’s Day
wishes by January 15 to:
feedback@critonline.com**

Meet The Tribal Council Candidates

Candidates for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Tribal Council submitted personal statements s part of their election packets. In the interest of fairness, the *Manataba Messenger* edited these to a maximum of 400 words each.

Chairman (4-year term)

Eldred Enas

This year is the year for change. From the White House to La Paz County, and next in line is the CRIT Tribal Council. Upon having conversations with the Tribal Council candidates and Tribal members, they desire a change for the betterment of the Tribe as a whole.

One of the ways to make a change is to restructure the way departments report to the Tribal Council. A simple process is to eliminate some of the committees, thus having the department directors report directly to one committee, on a monthly basis. This way they will be held accountable for their actions.

Also, set aside one day to have an open session with the elders and youth, utilizing the CRIT Youth Council as leaders for discussions.

If elected, I would have a close working relationship with the executive officers by delegating authority through weekly briefings.

I plan to appoint the councilmembers as liaisons to the departments as a point of contact, with a visitation of at least once a month.

This would free up the council to do other assignments and attend community functions and meetings.

I look forward to working with the newly elected councilmembers, and wish you well in the upcoming election. Good luck.

Wendell Goodman, Jr.

There's a tribal election on December 6 and here are some things you should consider. What we don't want to do is elect a Gentle Ben or someone that if not for intimidation, would be a no-where nothing person. These are two extremes and neither is conducive to good tribal government and productive management of our enterprises.

When you see a successful business, this success isn't applied on CRIT due to meddling of the council and their being intimidated into appointing a person to a position of authority without having to apply for the position. By being appointed by the council, the appointee serves only at the pleasure of the council that appointed him. When the new council is seated, it may not be their pleasure that the appointee continue in that position. It would be well within the prerogative of the new council to summarily fire the appointee without cause.

The people appointed to these positions are not thinkers but are people that soak up information and are unable to apply it in a practical way. They don't persuade people but try to manipulate or coerce them — failing this, they use intimidation.

In March 2008 on a Southern Paiute Reservation in northeast Arizona, the Bureau of Indian Affairs took control of tribal housing,

education and social services because tribal leaders had failed to produce audits dating back to 1998. Tribal members were not allowed to see budgets, expense records or other financial documents.

During the October 30 Coalition meeting at the Freeman Sharp building, a former council member related to the audience that Dennis Patch, Director of Education, upon request of the council, refused to submit an Education Department budget. Preparing and submitting a Department or Enterprise budget should be one of a Department Head's priorities and a major duty. In my managerial experience, not doing your job was an offense that was subject to termination as is blatant insubordination.

Our new council must backtrack and investigate Department budgets and verify that they were submitted as required and if other tribal financial documents were submitted upon requests and in a timely manner. Not having these documents may be the primary cause of our tribal government's over spending and financial problems — exclusive of tribal enterprises.

If you're an honest person and you vote your conscience, you're more likely to elect a person that you know to be honest.

Rayford Patch

I am Rayford Patch and I am a Mohave. I am a graduate of Phoenix Indian High School, Northern Arizona University and Grand Canyon University. I have an MBA with an emphasis in Accounting.

I have spent nearly my whole life in public service in various capacities within our Tribal government. My service includes 12 years as a Tribal Councilman, four years as Tribal treasurer, four and a half years as a Tribal judge and at least nine years in government administration. As a former Tribal Councilman I know and have experienced the complexities, political realities and nuances of our Tribal government.

I have been out of Tribal Council since December 2002. When I left, the Tribes had a cash surplus that would enable them to begin developing plans that would bring continued Tribal economic development to increase Tribal revenues. However, since I left, the Tribal Council has squandered opportunities and has taken the Tribal government and its enterprises closes to bankruptcy when it approved a \$7.5 million deficit budget. They passed this budget with no real plans on how they intended to balance the budget to make up for the deficits.

There has been no movement whatsoever by Tribal Council to increase revenues. Even though the tribe was able to secure the Wal-Mart lease, they were not able to provide the infrastructure and building for the second planned shopping center because it had no capital (cash) available to invest. Instead, Wal-Mart will build its own building for the tribe which does not include any additional space for other smaller tenants for the tribes to lease as initially planned. Had the cash been available to the tribes the tribes would have been able to secure a more beneficial and profitable lease. All this tells us is that there is something fundamentally wrong with our Tribal government, Tribal

Council and Tribal finances.

The tribe needs strong, effective and knowledgeable leadership with someone on board who has financial discipline. These economic hard times have already affected our casino and resort as well as the local community and economy. But it can be overcome and the tribe can endure!

With good fiscal responsibility and financial discipline the tribes can greatly improve the management of its operations, budgets, revenues, resources and spending to the benefit of the Tribal members as a whole. Good government is good for the people.

Vice Chairman (4-year term)

John Laffoon

I have lived on the Colorado River Indian Tribes reservation all my life. I attended all the local schools and upon graduation I joined the U.S. Air Force serving 1 1/2 years with an Honorable Discharge.

The last 20 years I have been employed by Colorado River Building Materials. The first 16 years I was the Store Manager. The last four years I was the General Manager. As the General Manager, I gained experience in budget and money management, which I feel qualifies me to run for this position. In addition, my previous 13 years work experience as Property & Supply Manager and Warehouse Supervisor has been with the Tribe. I have always served in a management position.

Some of the goals I would like to see undertaken by the new Council would be no taxes on Tribal members, Tribal business members and utilities such as water, sewer and trash. More assistance is needed for our youth and for the elderly programs.

A focus on our Tribal members' needs has to be highlighted and programs need to be developed such as assistance for small businesses, employment and using our resources for the benefit of the reservation.

The Tribal Council must be accountable for a timely balanced budget.

I have chosen to run for the Vice Chairman position because it is my belief that new and knowledgeable leadership is needed to position the Tribe in a more positive direction. Better management is needed and a business-oriented Tribal Council is needed.

In closing, if elected I look forward to working with the new Council for a better Colorado River Indian Tribe government for our members and employees.

Wayne Patch, Sr.

My name is Wayne Patch, Sr., and I am the eldest son of the late Luke Patch, Sr. and the late Katherine Martin patch. My father was a Mohave descendent with the Colorado River Indian Tribes. He was the first Game Warden for the CRIT Tribe. My mother was a Mohave descendent with the Fort Mohave Indian Tribes located in Needles, California. My wife of 34 years is Patricia (Long) Patch, an enrolled member of the Comanche Tribe of Lawton, Oklahoma. We have two sons, two daughters and are the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren.

I have over 30 years of experience in

supervision and management, budget, negotiating government and Tribal contracts and serving in the capacity of a building inspector while in the United States military and Civil Service with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service.

I will work:

- To improve communication between the Tribal government and its members;
- To improve budget formulation:
 - By demonstrating to the people that Tribal funds are being used efficiently toward meeting the mission of the CRIT;
 - To develop a 5-year strategic financial plan;
 - Generating monthly spending reports that will be available to the people; and
 - Submitting annual performance plans describing specifically what the Tribe intended to accomplish toward those goals with their annual budget;
- To reform the CRIT Constitution to meet the needs of our people in today's way of life;
- To respect and provide recognition to all four CRIT Tribes;
- To advocate health initiatives to elevate the health status of our people to the highest possible levels focusing on certain programs, including but not limited to the Well Baby, diabetes and coronary heart disease programs, and the fitness of our children, teens and adults;
- To improve the work ethics in our Tribal workforce; and
- To provide more competitive salaries for our Tribal workforce.

Tribal Council (4-year term, four seats available)

James “Jimmy” Alcaida

My name is James “Jimmy” Alcaida. I am the son of the late Bill and Viola Alcaida. I was born, raised and currently reside on the Colorado River Indian Tribal reservation.

My wife Tracy and I have been married for 26 years. I have four children: Chase, Dustie, Jerrod and Nick. I also have five grandchildren.

Currently I am employed as the CRIT Solid Waste (Landfill) Supervisor. I have held this position for the last 10 years.

I am asking for your support as I run for Tribal Council.

One of the most important issues facing us in the coming year is bringing back financial stability to a reservation that used to thrive. There are a lot of departments unable to provide the services they should because the financial strains of our Tribal government have made it impossible.

We need to bring our agricultural abilities back to the forefront of our income possibilities. Agriculture can and should be the lifeblood of our reservation. We have come to rely too heavily on gaming revenue that is no longer a steady source of income.

Having worked at one time or another with most of the Tribal departments, I have been made aware of problems caused by too much Tribal Council interference. We need to have faith and trust in the department heads we have hired and their employees. Annual reviews of these employees and departments would be a great way to make sure that our

departments are developing in a way that is beneficial to the Tribe as a whole.

Duncan Fisher

My parents are Willie Fisher, Sr., Chemehuevi, and Mildred Joan Bryan Fisher, Mohave Hipa Clan. I attended and completed high school at Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, California and have worked for the Tribe's Environmental Protection office for 10 years.

During these 10 years I have learned the procedures, process and structure of Federal grants, which gave me some knowledge of our Tribal government. I am now employed with the Tribes' Royalty office as an Agricultural Compliance office, which allows me to work closely with our Attorney General's office. The Tribe has numerous concerns and important issues which will take time and work to address and get us to where we need to be. If possible, as a Council member my main goal would be a focus on our agriculture. We should be further advanced than we are today.

Johnny Hill, Jr.

My name is Johnny Hill, Jr. I was born in Blythe, California on March 10, 1954. My mother was the late Leda Lee Paddock and my father was the late John S. Hill, Sr. A month or so after I was born my late grandmother, Mary Smith Hill, took me and raised me on her own. She was approximately 82 years old and she lived on to be 102. I was 21 when she passed. She raised me in church and she taught me to be strong and to respect others no matter what color their skin. She taught me to be honest and never lie.

When she passed I was lost. One day I went to Phoenix and enrolled myself in an Urban League. I did not ask the Tribe for money. I sold a car I had and did it all on my own. I enrolled in a welding class and became certified in different categories. When I got tired of welding I went into construction. Throughout my years I learned a lot, and now I work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where I've worked for 12 years.

Our reservation is going to pieces. We need new leaders, we need honest people, we need people we can trust, we need people who care about people and not themselves, we need people who will stand up for our people, we need people who will listen to our people.

I've gone to Council meetings and heard people crying and it hurts me inside. I pray that there will be a change someday and hope it will come soon. It's up to us, "The People." Wake up people – let's change the Council.

If you will support me I will do my best to help clean up this mess. I will work for and with our people of this reservation to make it thrive.

Herman D. "T.J." Laffoon

I am the son of Triny and the late Herman Laffoon Sr., born and raised on our reservation. I am a Mohave and member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. I served in the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam. I worked for the U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Indian Affairs and presently work as the Commercial Manager for the Colorado River Indian Tribes. I have served on numerous committees for both the Parker and Tribal communities I am a member of the American Legion and have served as

Commander and District 1 Commander for the Department of Arizona. I have been married for 40 years to Vicki Homer Laffoon and have eight children, 16 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

As a former Tribal Council member I have been involved in many decisions to regulate and determine our reservations' progress and direction. I feel this is a very important and serious obligation and I have cultivated many contacts on the community, state, national and Tribal levels who keep me informed on issues.

Serving on the Tribal Council and employed as Commercial Manager has provided me an orientation on the constitutional requirements, ordinances, policy and procedures and administrative functions of our Tribal government as well as the responsibility in working with the local community, federal, state and other Tribal governments.

Local, state and national issues need to be dealt with because they impact our Tribal government and reservation status. We must move forward with an optimistic attitude about positive change, keeping abreast of current events that take place at all levels of government in order to ensure that our reservation, the Tribal government and the people have the opportunity to participate in and provide input on issues that will be beneficial and profitable to our progress. There are many areas that need to be reevaluated for effectiveness and accountability. Future development and opportunity abounds and we must be ready to develop our resources in solar energy, hydroelectric and the further development of our lands.

I am asking for your vote on December 6th and if elected I will make a personal commitment to the Tribal membership to work in unity with the Tribal Council, abide by the Constitution and Ordinances and to keep an open mind and positive attitude on all issues to ensure all actions are in the best interest of the Tribe and the reservation.

Amanda Leivas-Sharpe

My name is Amanda Leivas-Sharpe. I am a Chemehuevi Indian of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. My parents are Fred and Ernestine (Paddock) Sharpe, my significant other is Antonio Barrera; together we have seven children: Crystal, Mark, Kristina, Pete, Irene, Tony and Samantha, and 10 grandchildren. I am employed with the Colorado River Indian Tribes Head Start program as the Director.

In 2001 I graduated with a Bachelor's degree from Ottawa University in Human Services. Throughout my life I have been active in various local committees and groups such as the Colorado River Regional Crisis Shelter Board member, Health Board, Education, JOM, PIRA and presently serve as the Vice Chair for the First Things First Regional CRIT Council.

I have chosen to run for a Tribal Council seat because as a Tribal member I believe there needs to be a better line of communication between the membership and those who make decisions on our behalf. I have been taught that in order for accomplishments to be achieved you need to be able to speak with the people who it will impact and take their points and concerns into consideration.

We are at a crucial time when it comes to Tribal government where changes can be

made this is our time to cast our vote and elect people to represent the membership as a whole. I offer that opportunity to you the membership by casting your vote on election day, December 6, 2008 and cast your vote providing me an opportunity to represent you as one of your new Council members.

Timothy Mariscal

My name is Timothy Mariscal and I am running for Tribal Council. I am the eldest son of the late Cecilia H. Mariscal and am the proud parent of three sons and one daughter. I have resided on the Colorado River Indian Reservation for 45 years, working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 24 years and now as Crew Leader Supervisor with the Wildland Fire Department.

As a Tribal member and a Parker community citizen I have experienced and observed changes big and small. We took a stand to retain our sovereignty and our land, upholding our Tribal rights to those who objected. We have begun to communicate with each other and expand our knowledge of our Tribal business enterprises, culture and traditions. With these changes comes a need to set focus and priority on certain issues.

Through the years our financial stability has decreased greatly and we are struggling to maintain consistency. It is time to look at business perspectives and directions for change and improvements. We have relied on past and current Council s and have seen minimal change with no accountability and no explanations. We need to be able to communicate better with direction and full understanding.

Let's take care of our departments and its employees. Law enforcement has no retirement system and we are losing employees. We have developments being built on our reservation and we must invest in these with getting more people to get qualified and proper training. These departments are a high priority for our safety.

Another concern is who we are as Tribal members and Native Americans. We have lost the ability to communicate with the youth, adults and especially our elders. We must be able to voice our opinions without retaliation. Let's bring back the education of our culture and traditions to our youth; adults also need to recognize our elders who hold the history of our Tribes.

If elected I will put forth my best knowledge and speak for "you" as a whole and as a Tribe. I will work with other Council members and departments to help make better decisions with our finances and all the endeavors we enter into together as a Tribe. Communication between Tribal members and the Parker community, as well as you, are key factors in changing and moving forward together. These goals will take time but with teamwork they will be accomplished.

Anisa Patch

I am Anisa Patch, a 30-year-old member of CRIT who from a young age helped and served the community. I am half Mohave and half Hopi. I graduated from Parker High School with Honors in 1996. I received my education from NAU and San Jose State University. I am certified in Gaming Management, and a certified Financial Trainer of JPMorgan Chase. For the past five years I've served on the Education Committee and Business Enterprise Board. I've gained knowledge and seen the day-to-day operations of the enterprises, and the

hardships students go through. By working as a paralegal for the Tribes' Attorney General's Office and currently as a Grants/Contracts Specialist I've gained experience in legal and financial areas, as well as, the governmental functions. By working with and seeing the Tribes financial situation, I'm concerned that Tribal Council members lack the understanding of how a government works, as well as, the business ventures of the Tribes.

I remember the Tribe when it was a leader in Arizona and the country. We were all proud to be members here. Now we've many members relinquishing membership from CRIT, and our tribe is ridiculed by everyone, including the members. We need to set aside differences and divisive politics. Remember what makes CRIT great, the PEOPLE. I want to make sure that CRIT sees there are educated members out there that want to come home and work for the Tribe. We have elders and eager young tribal members wanting to help. These are the strengths we can build upon to make our future. My focus is moving the tribe forward, expanding our business base and enterprises to diversify our economy and financial resources. This small step ensures we won't be victims of national economic trends, like what happened to our casino.

My grandfather always told us that everything we needed was right here. As I look around today, I see the wisdom of his words. The challenge we have now is how can we get people to focus on what is important, which is the future of our children.

Yes I'm young, but I've experienced a lot in my life and understand how the government should be run. I believe every tribal member should have their individual rights guaranteed and protected and their voices heard. I appreciate your support and vote in achieving our vision of success for our Tribe.

Dennis Patch

CRIT is experiencing an economic downturn. This will undoubtedly result in some job losses and services for our community. However, we should not despair. The CRIT Reservation has 246,000 acres of land in Arizona and a portion in California. These lands provide 90 miles of shoreline, over 80,000 acres of agricultural land, and the largest privately held water allocation of all Indian nations.

We need sound economic management of our vast resources. We need a strategic plan for economic development, especially with our tribal enterprises. We also need to be fiscally responsible for all tribal funds. This means we should not undervalue our resources, land and water, but get the best value on the open market.

I have served the Tribes and our community for 30 years. My work on the Resource Development Committee has enabled me to increase revenue from our farm land-lease payments by approximately \$1.5 million in 2007 and 2008. This has been done by getting farmers who lease our lands to pay fair market value.

I have attempted to stop special interests, personal favors and make individuals accountable for their actions. With Tribal Council support, I have established a financial bidding process for leasing lands and supporting our local farmers who have

The kids are alright in December Photo Contest



Submit now, win in February

First place in the December 2008 Photo Contest went to Kelly Short-Chrisman for her photo of Allison-Mae Chrisman, taken for her dad Richard L. Chrisman who was on an 11-month deployment with the Navy (top left). She will receive \$100.

Second place goes to Elaine Tahbo Baran for her photo of son Kobe Lee Baran after eating his first barbecue chicken wing (above). She will receive \$50.

Third place goes to Ora Humeumptewa for her photo of nephew Ethan Sharp on Halloween enjoying his Halloween candy (bottom left). She will receive \$25.

Honorable mentions go to:

- Robert Esquerra for his photo of Tyson (left), Cody (middle) and Bobbie (right) Esquerra showing Panther Spirit at the Colorado River Conference Pop Warner

Cheer Competition (below).

- Esther James for her picture of the American flag being unveiled at an Arizona Cardinals game (middle left).
- Tami Anderson for her picture of daughter Amaya Simone after having her face painted while at Legoland on family vacation (opposite page top).
- Lillian Hunter for her picture of Hopi Dancers during Native American Days (opposite page middle).
- Thalla Paddock for her photo of Cricket Paddock all dressed to go trick-or-treating (opposite page bottom).

The deadline for submissions for the February issue is January 15. You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible. Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7144 E. Stetson Drive Suite 400, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Or, e-mail the entry to feedback@critonline.com.





COUNCIL,

From Page 7

been loyal tenants and good stewards of our lands.

While serving on the CRIT Farm Board, we have had to make many difficult decisions amid the scrutiny and gossip of those content with the status quo. We have completely changed our crop patterns, invested in new equipment and personnel, moved our farm headquarters, and instituted numerous checks and balances. These changes increased production and revenue, generating nearly \$2.5 million for our Tribes' financial stability.

The tribal government has a history of producing economic projects. Both Walmart and the CRIT Farms Cooler Project have been several years in the making. We cannot continue down a path of zero economic development.

I encourage tribal members to become informed about your government. Read the resolutions your council has passed and examine how we all vote on the issues that affect you and your family. Be an active, participating citizen, rather than someone who gets their news through gossip.

I ask you for your support this election so that I may continue to be your voice of reason. I will push for continued fiscal responsibility, economic development, care for our elderly and champion the education of our youth.

Elroy I. Robertson, Sr.

I am running for Tribal Council to represent the members of the Colorado River Indian Tribe. I've lived on the reservation for 28 years. I attended Western States College of Engineering, obtaining an Associate degree in Electronic Engineering. After college I worked for Scientific Data Systems, and I served in the U.S. Navy as an electrician. I have served on many different boards/committees in our community, including the Irataba Society, CRIT Education Committee, Treasurer of the Parker Indian Rodeo Association, CRIT Business Enterprise Board, Business Enterprise Coordinator and Parker Historical Society.

As I went door-to-door speaking with Tribal members I heard many concerns:

- Education – Our education departments need to monitor all levels of education and obtain input from the students and educators.
- Senior Citizens – Upgrade our senior center (MO-Chem-Ho-NA). Establish a convalescent care center. Elders need assistance around their homes for yard work and trimming trees.
- Veterans – Set qualifying age to 55 for veterans for utility payments.
- Tribal Council – Accountability by all members; no unnecessary spending; no closed-door meetings; members need public defender/legal representation on judicial matters. The Council needs to work for the people and not for self-interest; it needs to publish reports on all programs including enterprises; it should publish an annual financial report.
- No taxation on Tribal members that tax Tribal-owned business, real estate, vendors, land leases, Tribal farmers and personal property, etc.
- The Council needs to receive financial reports from the Tax commission and obtain annual audits.

Our government revenue is limited and any future expenditure will have to be scrutinized thoroughly. I believe my eight years of banking experience is beneficial in this regard. By reducing the tribe's deficit the Tribe's departments can survive downsizing.

Regarding per capita payments: I cannot foresee any payment in the near future based on our current financial dilemma. I want to provide jobs that will bring food to the table to provide nourishment for our children. We can propose a referendum for per capita payments only after we stabilize our finances.

If I am elected to the Tribal Council on December 6, 2008, I will work with the other Council members to meet

the needs of all members to improve our government.

As your representative I will lead with integrity, resolve, honesty and accountability. Thank you for your support.

Myron Robertson

I was born in Keams Canyon, Arizona and moved with my parents to Parker at the age of four. I attended Poston Elementary School, Parker High School and Haskell Institute Junior College. Upon graduation from Haskell I volunteered into the U.S. Air Force where I retired after 20 years of service.

During my Air Force service years, I had an annual budget of over five million dollars as a vehicle maintenance supervisor in charge of the diesel heavy equipment section. After my retirement from the military I lived in Las Vegas, Nevada for 17 years where I was employed in five different hotel casinos, working in the Security & Surveillance departments. In 2002 I moved back to Parker where I was again employed by the BlueWater Resort & Casino working in the Tribal Gaming Agency.

My greatest concerns and views are the accountabilities of the Tribal Council as a whole. If elected to the Tribal Council I will push for more accountability of Tribal entities such as the CRIT Farms, MooValya Plaza, BlueWater Resort & Casino and Big River. I will also pursue a better checks and balances process of the above-mentioned departments. I am now retired and will be able to devote my full time to all the Tribal concerns and issues without the conflict of a 40-hour work week.

Merving Scott, Jr.

My name is Merving Scott, Jr. My father was the late Merving (Plas) Scott, Sr., and my mother is Patricia Louise Fisher Scott, I am married to Jacquelyn Dee Parten Scott and have two beautiful step-daughters: Kaleigh and Bronte.

I decided to run for a Tribal Council position to protect and serve the Tribal members of this community. Our growth has brought problems that need to be addressed and our actions need to be held accountable. We have seen things done that are questionable but we have not received any answers.

Our Council must remember they are voted in by the members of this Tribe. We are in a dilemma with our finances. With all the resources in our valley and the potential for growth, it seems unrealistic that we face severe negative financial possibilities. Our past Councils always seemed to the make the right choice and made decisions that were fair for everyone.

We need to start running our Tribe in a manner that would benefit all members. We need to find a better process that will yield the full potential by changing our accounting practices. Tribal members need to realize they are part of a multi-million dollar business. We need full accountability of our finances to reach our goals.

The children of this Tribe should all be given the opportunity to attend some type of post-high school learning. Other minorities fully understand this and send as many of their children to school as they can to achieve their goals.

It is time for us to attempt to reach our full potential before it's too late. We need to prioritize our goals to allow our children the opportunity to become lawyers, business owners, teachers, etc.

We need homes for our elderly, especially those with medical needs. We lack skilled employees for the construction within our boundaries. All this I see in the future if we change our current practices. I could go on about the programs we need, but we can address that once we have stabilized our finances.

I would like to ask for your vote on election day. As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "I have a dream." It would be great to see these things accomplished by our people and once things are in place, to allow them to continue for future generations.

Domestic Violence Code will help protect tribal members

Signs of domestic violence include physical, sexual abuse, other actions

Submitted by the Domestic Violence Workgroup

The Domestic Violence Project (“Project”) started back in late 1990s because the community felt a real need to have a code in place to protect victims of domestic and family violence.

In 1999, the final draft of the proposed Family Violence Code (“Code”) was published for public comments. In 2000, the proposed Code was presented before the Tribal Council for approval. Unfortunately, it was tabled. In 2002, the proposed Code was revisited; and again, it was tabled.

It was not until the tragic death of a Te-Moak mother living on the CRIT Reservation that left four children, who are CRIT members, motherless due to domestic violence in 2008 that the Tribes feel the urgent need to to revisit the proposed Code to afford victims of domestic/family violence protection that the current Tribal codes do not address.

Thus, a new Domestic and Family Violence Workgroup (“Workgroup”) was formed to revise and update the proposed Code.

Copies were made available on the CRIT Official Website and at the CRIT Library.

On November 10, a public hearing took place for public comments and feedback.

The revised Code is now called the Domestic and Family Violence Code (“ Revised Code”) will protect spouses, cohabitants, non-married intimate partners, other family members living in the same household, elders, and dependent adults. The highlights of the Revised Code are as follows but this list is not exhaustive:

1. The Tribal Police can arrest the perpetrator against the will of the victim if the Police has probable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed an offense under the Revised Code.
2. The Tribal Prosecutor may move forward with prosecution even if the victim witness is unwilling to testify against the perpetrator as long as there is sufficient evidence to warrant prosecution.
3. The Tribal Court shall issue a Protection Order to grant a large number of reliefs to the victim. Violation of a Protection Order by the perpetrator is a criminal offense and the Court can issue an arrest warrant if there's probable cause to show a violation of such Protection Order.
4. A CRIT elder or a dependent adult, a person that lacks understanding or capacity to

make or communicate responsible decisions concerning his/her person as determined by the courts or qualified healthcare professionals, can be made a temporary ward of the court under the auspices of CRIT Department of Health Services in a domestic/family violence situation. Temporary wardship shall end when a safe alternative care arrangement can be made for the elder or dependent adult.

The Workgroup is in the process of making appropriate revisions from the comments and feedback during the public hearing that took place back in November, 2008. The Workgroup will bring forth the Revised Code before Tribal Council for approval and adoption in the next month. Of course, the true success of the Revised Code depends on the actions taken by all the key enforcement departments.

Once adopted, these key departments will go through a rigorous training to familiarize themselves with their duties and other policies, protocols and procedures under the Revised Code. We urge the community to approach your governmental representatives to voice your support for the adoption of this historical Code.

Copies of the Revised Code are available on CRIT Official Website, www.critonline.com, and at the CRIT Library.

CANDIDATES,

From Page 9

Dale W. Short, Sr.

My name is Dale W. Short, Sr., Tribal member (Mohave) and a lifelong resident of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. I am a Vietnam Veteran serving with distinction. I am the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam A. Short (deceased) and I have three daughters and two sons.

This is not my first time seeking a seat on the Tribal Council and I have not changed my views as to what needs to be done to improve our reservation and the livelihood of our Tribal members. I have seen our reservation and the economy of our reservation deteriorate with the re-election of the status quo. I say enough is enough; the People need to realize this and bring about change in our next election.

Education is my main concern. Our children are the foundation and future of our reservation. Education cannot be overlooked if people want to be prosperous. Our education system needs to be revamped to put all entities of our education departments under one umbrella with one director responsible. This is called accountability.

Another item that needs to be revamped is our land issue: A dependable and reliable farm manager needs to be found – the Council needs to stop micro-managing the farm manager and his duties.

I've been learning the way our Casino operates and how they handle everyday business by talking to employees. It seems the Casino upper staff is too top heavy: when the issue of layoffs arose I asked why they couldn't start from the top where the big money was and I was told the Casino could not afford to pay off those people and their contracts. Someone made sure the top half of the employee staff were looked after but no one spoke up for the everyday employees, the ones who make sure you have a clean toilet to sit on or washes the dishes and carries in the bags.

I ask for your support in the coming election. I have ideas that could help our reservation and all its Tribal members. I am a person who has made mistakes like we all have but ask you look to the ideas of change that I propose.

Valerie Welsh-Tahbo

My name is Valerie Welsh-Tahbo and I am the daughter

of the late Darwin T. Welsh, Sr., and Lillian Welsh. I've served two terms as a proud CRIT Councilwoman. Six of those years I served a dual role serving the Council and as the Career Development Specialist. In January 2007, when I accepted the position of Tribal Secretary, I left my department head position after twelve gratifying years. The appointment came when I knew our government would be facing an onslaught of issues great and small; therefore my devotion to our government and people as Secretary was embraced.

During my tenure I've been privileged to witness Tribal accomplishments unfold on local, county, state and national fronts. There has also been strife along the way, and for this, I am humbly asking for your support this election. I understand the need to evolve methodically with improvement as a constant goal and respect as the foundation.

We must maintain our unwavering support in education, culture, health, safety, housing and the environment. The time of counting on casinos to generate revenue to support these causes has come to pass. With our economy the way it is we need to strategically move toward another multi-million revenue generating venture. On April 9, 2008, I testified before the House Committee on Natural Resources proposing CRIT's stance to use proceeds from the BIA's power system to develop our own technical and managerial infrastructure or a Tribal Energy Resource Agreement (TERA) as deemed allowable under the Energy Policy Act of 2005. In other words, our own power company.

We have projects on the table that must flourish, for example: the long term care housing project designed for our elders; Information Technologies (IT) expansion; financial forecasting and spending plans; reviewing and updating of codes and ordinances; implementing the Domestic Violence Code; juvenile shelter home; hiring of qualified employees who bring commitment and innovation and improving the Tribal directory outlining resources.

I have the confidence and courage to continue working for our tribe to battle what may very well be the hardest economic times with self-determination in mind. Your encouragement and support will best be served by voting on December 6, 2008 and you can be assured that my pride to be a part of the CRIT community will never waver as I extend my best regards to my running mates.

Edward Kennard Yava, Sr.

My given name is Edward Kennard Yava, Sr. I am of the Tewa-Hopi and Din'e Tribes. In the traditional respect I am of

the Towering House Clan born for the Tewa People. My mother was of the Din'e People and my father was Tewa.

I attended LePera (Poston) Elementary School and the school in Keams Canyon, Arizona. I also attended Parker High School.

After high school I enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving 12 years. I am also a Vietnam veteran.

My educational background consists of attending Arizona Western College, Phoenix College, Grand Canyon University and Arizona State University. I have a Bachelors degree in Education with a minor in Behavioral Health; at Arizona State University I began my Master's in Fine Arts.

My tenure as a Federal employee spans nearly 34 years which includes military service, thus giving rise to my consistent work ethic.

With this said my platform is as follows:

- To work with other members of the Tribal Council to comply with the Tribal Constitution and its By-Laws, Referendums and Resolutions in the administrative governance of the Tribes;
- To establish an effective Tribal government that is legitimate in the eyes of the Tribal membership and in doing so, promote and prioritize educational, social and health services within the Tribal government;
- Concern for our youth who need a Council that will address their issues and concerns;
- Economic developments that are often addressed but seldom acted upon. Realistically, we need to put our Tribal members to work and provide avenues for employment.
- Empower our Council to provide teamwork and leadership that will continue to move forward with clear planning and action for the future and benefit of the membership.

As a member of the Tribal Council it is essential that I provide on-going leadership and direction for our Tribe. I trust that you, the Tribal membership, will support me in this endeavor. Together, with your insight, we as a Tribe can move forward.

In closing, I see there is a definite need for the separation of politics from business management, for effective, non-political dispute resolution and for a Tribal government that can get the job done.

It would be an honor and privilege to serve as your representative on the Tribal Council. I will respectfully consider your vote of confidence and support on the December 6, 2008 election.

1st Quarter Honor Roll & Perfect Attendance Students

Wallace Elementary Perfect Attendance Annie Carlyle Ryan Cooper Armondo Dutcher Jordan Esquerra Darian Flores Micah Gonzales Lucas Harper Ramiro Martinez Cassandra Miller Olivia Miller Spencer Moore Patricia Pena Roman Robledo Lainee Scott Mariah Sharpe Vernon Short Celeste Silva Jasmine Welsh Evan Whiteley	Darian Flores Abraham Salgado Patricia Pena Annie Carlyle Cassandra Miller Ramiro Martinez	Jennifer Carter Lane Drennan Brie Miller Vanessa Olivares Leejah Tsosie Cameron Booth Samantha Honadick Bow Evanston Lindsey Fisher Ashley Harper Nicholas Martinez	Olivia Esquerra Angelina Flores Lorena Flores Roger Flores Brianna Huffman Breon Kaibetony Mercedes Leivas Devin Leivas Marijayne Leivas Dante Leivas Lisa Logan Lanise Mark Alberto Pablo Hill Samantha Rodriguez Jacob Sandoval Juan Sandoval Alfonso Soto Destinee Swick Marcus Tuchawena Quenton Yazzie	Elizabeth Silva Jade Humeumtewa Shayna Kirk Tiana Brown Sean Harper Elisha Silva Brandan Bender Misti Poolaw Danielle Hunter Alejandro Castro Jason Amador Shane Robledo Darrius Fernandez Miya Welsh Johnny Kirk Diovianne Miller Nickolas Silva Tyler Welch Sarah Hunter Gabriel Roberts Sharolyn Robertson Jazmine Bender Bryanna Sam Ryan Warner Loren Tahbo Jacoby Yeahquo Mariah Moore Nichalos Aspa
Wallace Elementary Honor Roll Annie Carlyle Jordan Esquerra Anferny Fisher Kordell Duckey Micah Gonzalez Simeon Miller Patricia Pena Cassandra Miller Darian Flores Stacia Scott Ramiro Martinez Spencer Moore	Wallace Junior High Principal's Honor Roll Taylor Gonzales-Bush Alayna Amador Ashley Harper	Wallace Junior High Students of the Month Taylor Gonzales-Bush Parrish Davis Ashley Harper Lindsey Fisher Zoe Russell Vanessa Olivares Bryan Miller Andrea Scott Alayna Amador Talia Chavez	Le Pera Students of the Month Tamar McCabe Alyzet Miller Kamalani Welch Juan Sandoval Ephraim McCowan	Blake Perfect Attendance Kenyon Casares Elijah Gonzales Titus Warner Bobbie Esquerra Alexus Dutcher Anthony Flores Zariah Tahbo Sean Robledo Aleesha Begaye
Wallace J.H. Perfect Attendance Nina Drennan Alexandra Fernandez Tylor Harper Alex Murphy Myrita Barley Kendra Cooper Carrigan Mc Cowan Lain Miller Breanna Scott Bryan Miller Zoe Russell Alayna Amador Joshua Olguin	Wallace Junior High Honor Roll Cameron Booth Talia Chavez Lane Drennan Lindsey Fisher Samantha Honadick Shawni Laffoon Vanessa Olivares Zoe Russell Mia Sanchez	Le Pera Honor Roll Alexandria Alvarado Devin Leivas Bailey Martin Andrew Scott Destinee Swick	Blake Students of the Month Rylan Burton Lisa Tsosie Anthony Flores Shelby Sholl Ryan Mosser Danielle Hunter Anesah Esquerra Paul Begaye	
Wallace "Super Kids" Mariah Sharpe		Le Pera Perfect Attendance Cylus Alvarado Charlee Barrackman Marcus Drennan Han'avaa Esquerra Antenor Esquerra		

Who gets to name the new shopping center? Maybe YOU



The CRIT Tribal Council is sponsoring a contest to name the new shopping plaza to be located across from Moovalya Plaza on Riverside Drive.

This will be the location of the Wal-Mart Superstore now under construction and several other stores in the future. Prizes will be awarded to the winner and also to the first and second runner-ups.

To compete in this contest, just send a name for the

plaza in a sealed envelope along with your name and contact information to:

CRIT Planning Department
26600 Mohave Road
Parker, Arizona 85344
Attention: Plaza Naming Contest

To be eligible, entries must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2009.

We Want To Hear From You!

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
 If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

26600 Mohave Road
 Parker, AZ 85344
 (928) 669-1233 or
 (928) 669-1223
 feedback@critonline.com

Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

www.critonline.com

Don't forget the
 February photo contest!

Advertise With Us!

Now you can reach the 3,800 members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes directly. *Manataba Messenger*, the official publication of CRIT, is distributed by mail to all members and at newsstands at prominent locations throughout the Parker area, including the BlueWater Resort & Casino.
 For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

ELECTION,
 From Page 1

Council at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council chambers. This meeting is open to the public.
 Inauguration of new Tribal Council members will take place on January 2, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers.

Special Election called for December 13
 Additionally, there will be an entirely separate

CHAIRMAN,
 From Page 1

of the Tribal government never end, it continues on. A lot of the projects that have been done could not have been without the support and understanding of you, the members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. For that I am appreciative after all, the goal of the governing body of this Tribe is to benefit the people, its membership.

ELECTRIC,
 From Page 3

Also, BIA Electric currently serves most but not all of the CRIT Reservation. Since power from BIA Electric is cheaper than other providers, CRIT would like to extend its coverage to cover the entire CRIT Reservation.
 Additionally, CRIT believes that a Tribal Energy Department will allow the Tribes to expand its economic opportunities by branching out into renewable energy sources.
 "This legislation will help improve the quality of life for CRIT residents by allowing our tribe to have more control over our utility

Special Recall Election set for December 13. Please get your Absentee Ballot requests to the Enrollment Department as soon as possible so the ballots can be received by the special election date. The question on the ballot will be: "Shall Daphne Hill-Poolaw be recalled from the position of Tribal Council Member".
 For specific information regarding both elections please contact the Enrollment Department (928) 669-1240/1241 or fax (928) 669-1236. The recall vote will take place at the same polling places as the regular from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on December 13.

It is difficult for me to convey to you my feelings for you allowing me to be your leader for the past years but it has been an honor and a privilege to do so, and has overall been an experience I shall never forget. I once had an old friend that used to tell me, "Hell, Dan, even mules rest." I believe it's time I take those words to heart and do just that.
 Once again, I say it is hard for me to find the words to express myself to relay to you my appreciation and my gratitude for your support and trust in me through the years. Thank you and God bless you.

infrastructure," said Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. "We are grateful to Congressman Grijalva for introducing this bill in Congress, and appreciate the hard work of our lobbyists in getting it passed and onto the president's desk."
 Congress passed the legislation during their "lame duck" session in November. There are not expected to be any objections from President Bush's administration, and the bill will become law upon his signature.
 It had a relatively smooth ride through the legislative process over the course of the past few months, having stalled before the November elections but passing quickly afterward. Tribal Councilwoman Valerie Welsh-Tahbo helped the bill's passage by testifying in favor of the bill in Congress this past spring.



COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
 Colorado River Indian Reservation
 26600 Mohave Road
 Parker, AZ 85344



Happy Holidays to you and
 your family!
 — The Manataba Messenger

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